Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY: AF/E:GWSCOTT APPROVED BY: AF:WHARROP S/S-O HWEINLAND

-----118067 220138Z /62

R 211921Z DEC 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC INFO RUQMDI/AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO 0404 AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PINR, MOPS, ET, UR, EG, CM, US SUBJ: SOVIET AIRLIFT TO ETHIOPIA

REF: (A) STATE 297459, (B) STATE 297322, (C) STATE 297314 (D) STATE 297297

1. COURTESY CALLS OF AF/C DIRECTOR JUNIOR ON FOREIGN MINISTRY SECRETARY GENERAL JOSEPH OWONO (FORMER AMBASSADOR TO US) AND PRESIDENCY SECRETARY GENERAL SAMUEL EBOUA PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY INFORM GURC OF SOVIET AIRLIFT AS OUTLINED REFTELS.

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2. BOTH OWONO AND EBOUA APPRECIATED RECEIVING INFORMATION AND INDICATED THAT THEY DID NOT WISH TO SEE SUPER POWER INVOLVEMENT IN HORN OF AFRICA. THEY FULLY APPROVED OF US POLICY OF RESTRAINT IN FURNISHING DEFENSIVE EWAPONS IN SOMALIA AND DISAPPROVED OF INCREASED SOVIET AID TO ETHIOPIA. THEY WISHED TO SEE MEDIATION EFFORTS GIVEN A CHANCE INSTEAD OF

AN ESCALATION IN THE LEVEL OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT BEING FURNISHED. OWONO INDICATED THAT HE WOULD INFORM FOREIGN MINISTER KEUTCHA AND EBOUA AS NORMAL ROUTINE CAN BE EXPECTED TO REPORT HIS CONVERSATION TO PRESIDENT AHIDJO.

3. WHILE GURC OFFICIALS DID NOT SAY THAT THEY WOULD TURN DOWN REQUESTS FOR OVERFLIGHTS, IN THE UNLIKELY EVEN THEY ARE MADE, THEY PROBABLY WOULD DO SO SINCE THEY HAVE MADE IT CLEAR TO SOVIETS THAT AEROFLOT IS NOT RPT NOT WELCOME TO MAKE TECHNICAL STOPS FOR FUEL IN DOUALA ON THE NDJAMENA-MALABO RUN. GURC WAS INFORMED OF SOVIET PRACTICE OF INDICATING ADEN AS DESTINATION ON FLIGHTS BOUND FOR ETHIOPIA. SMYTHE UNQTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am

Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: MILITARY AIRLIFTS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 21-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am

Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE303927
Document Source: Concept Concept Unique Concept Con

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: AF/E:GWSCOTT Enclosure: n/a

Executive Order: X1 Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D770476-0897

Format: TEL From: STATE

Handling Restrictions:

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771230/aaaaazev.tel

Line Count: 75 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3b1e16ff-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS

Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 STATE 297459, 77 STATE 297322, 77 STATE 297314, 77 STATE 297297

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 25-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 156594 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: SOVIET AIRLIFT TO ETHIOPIA TAGS: PINR, MOPS, ET, UR, EG, CM, US To: MOGADISCIO ADDIS ABABA

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3b1e16ff-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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